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Ellen O. Tauscher
Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
10th District, California

2459 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515
TELEPHONE (202) 225-1880
FAX (202) 225-5914

2121 NORTH CALIFORNIA BOULEVARD
SUITE 555
WALNUT CREEK, CA 94596
TELEPHONE (925) 932-8899
FAX (925) 932-8159

2000 CADENASSO DRIVE
SUITE A
FAIRFIELD, CA 94533
TELEPHONE (707) 428-7792
FAX (707) 438-0523

420 WEST 3RD STREET
ANTIOCH, CA 94509
TELEPHONE (925) 757-7187
FAX (925) 757-7056

www.house.gov/tauscher

John Muller
Chair
San Francisco Bay Regional Water Quality Control Board
1515 Clay Street, Suite 1400
Oakland, CA 94612

February 15, 2008

Dear Chairman Muller,

I write to express my support of measurable reductions of trash in San Francisco Bay. I understand that the Water Board is currently finalizing its groundbreaking rules on this issue as part of a Municipal Regional Stormwater Permit (Regional Permit).

As the Water Board finalizes the Regional Permit, I encourage you to continue in active consultation with the affected municipalities. As part of a measurable reduction in trash runoff, our communities will spend increased funds on a beneficial cause. In order to address the trash problem in the Bay, a variety of strategies will be necessary, including identifying a funding mechanism to assist the municipalities in this effort, and working with local Bay Area governments to design a comprehensive approach will ensure the most successful outcome.

Monitoring and reducing trash runoff is an important effort to protect the Bay's ecosystem. I applaud your efforts and look forward to hearing about your coordination with the affected municipalities.

Sincerely,



Ellen O. Tauscher
Member of Congress